The Utah Commission on Volunteers is pleased to present

The 2008 Utah Conference "Service ~ The Sweet Life"

April 29-30, 2008 at the Provo Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, BYU Alumni House and the Marriott Center on the BYU Campus

The Utah Commission on Volunteers, Office of the Lieutenant Governor, is pleased to invite you to the 2008 Utah Conference on Service, April 29-30 at the Provo Marriott. This year's conference on service brings new partners and activities to the features that you've come to expect from past conferences - informative workshops, an inspiring awards banquet, great entertainment, and networking with friends.

This year's theme, "Service ~ The Sweet Life" will focus participants on the benefits and rewards of service. Our graphics purposefully reflect some of the aspects of "The Sweet Life" – teaching a child to fish while enjoying the serenity of the outdoors as well as the hope of hooking a child on a lifetime of service. We'll also reflect on how last year's "Building Bridges" focus impacted your organizations and how to move your action plans forward in your communities. Our goal this year is to provide examples of "teaching someone to fish" with the net result of real sustainability of programs and projects that bring "the sweet life" to more and more of the people we all serve.

The Conference opens on Tuesday, April 29th, with a welcome reception at the BYU Alumni Center from 5:00-7:00 PM. Returning to the Conference this year is Steve James, Seasons of Service musical presenter, who will be providing musical performances Tuesday. Immediately following, you're invited to attend the Hope of America Foundation Student Showcase concert at the Marriott Center (right across the street) where the Commission on Volunteers will be recognized on behalf of Utah's citizens for making us #1 in the nation for volunteering!

Wednesday, April 30th, opens with a keynote by Merrilee Boyack, outstanding lecturer and author of the new book, "52 Weeks of Fun Family Service". Workshops throughout the day include a track for Learn and Serve school districts and anyone interested in grant writing and service learning, a track sponsored by the Office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives, and the ever-popular offerings on volunteer management. New this year is a service project area where you can learn and unwind while volunteering with friends.

Nominations are now open for the outstanding volunteers and organizations to be recognized at the awards luncheon on April 30. Please visit our website at www.volunteers.utah.gov to nominate a volunteer or even a volunteer group. Deadline for nominations is April 8. Keynote speaker at the awards luncheon will be Jedd Medefind, Deputy Director of the Office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives.

(Please note that Tuesday, April 29th, is the date of the Silver Bowl Awards Luncheon, sponsored by the Utah Volunteer Centers Association and the Utah Commission on Volunteers. If you're traveling long distances, we hope you'll plan for both events. To nominate an outstanding volunteer from your county, contact your local Volunteer Center; locate your county's volunteer center by visiting www.volunteers.utah.gov . Registration and nominations for the Silver Bowl Awards and the 2008 Utah Conference are separate.)

Please register online at www.regonline.com/08COVConference. General Attendee registration fee is \$89.00 until April 8th. After April 8th, the registration fee is \$109.00. The conference and lodging are both at the Provo Marriott, 801-377-4700. To receive the lodging conference rate of \$65.00 you must request that you are a part of the conference group for the 2008 Utah Conference, "Service - The Sweet Life." After April 15th, this conference rate is not guaranteed.

For more information about the 2008 Utah Conference, "Service ~ The Sweet Life," please feel free to contact the Commission on Volunteers at www.volunteers.utah.gov or 801-538-8785. We look forward to seeing you in April!